

CLASSIFICATION <b>SECRET</b>		25X1
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Military Activities in the Area of the Eighth Gds Army</u>		
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT		
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	24 February 1955
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>6</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		
This is UNEVALUATED Information		
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1. On 30 January 1955, approximately 50 soldiers drilled in the Koenig-Georg Kaserne (8443) in Plauen. Numerous trucks stood in the yard. 1 25X1
2. On 30 January, 5 soldiers each practiced aiming with 6 x 85-mm AT guns which were emplaced on the east side of the Hindenburg Kaserne (8442). Twelve soldiers practiced on 4 mortars near the AT guns. 1
3. On 30 January, approximately 100 soldiers fired with carbines at the Schneckengruen firing range and approximately 150 soldiers received field training at the Kobitzschwalde training grounds. 1
4. On 16 January, the Koenig-Georg Kaserne in Plauen was apparently occupied by an infantry unit. Soldiers who entered and left the installation and sentries observed wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. 1 25X1
5. On 27 January, the former Gendarmerie Kraftfahrerschule (8151) on Schleusinger Chaussee in Suhl was apparently occupied by a Soviet infantry unit. Soldiers entering and leaving, as well as sentries, wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. 2
6. On 11 December 1954, JS-2 tanks [ ] were were detrained at the Saalebahnhof in Jena and left for the Loebstedt Kaserne (8222). 25X1
7. On 29 January, JS-3 tank [ ] from the Loebstedt Kaserne was entrained at the Saale Bahnhof. 3 25X1
8. On 13 January, 25 factory-new two-axle armored personnel carriers were unloaded at the Saale Bahnhof and left for the barracks installation in Loebstadt. 4

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8. On 16 January, the following soldiers and materiel were detrained at the Saale Bahnhof in Jena and left for the Loebstedt Kaserne:

7 boxcarloads of soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets;  
 2 trucks with 2 x 122-mm field howitzers;  
 5 trucks with 76.2-mm field guns;  
 2 trucks with 120-mm mortars; and  
 1 truck with 1 x 85-mm AT gun.

3

9. Between 8 and 14 January, the barracks installation in Zwaetzen near Jena (8221) was occupied by an AAA unit and an SP unit. SP guns, presumably SU-100 guns, and 37-mm AA guns were observed. On 8 January, SP gun [ ] entered the installation. On 14 January, an AAA unit was entrained at the Saale Bahnhof. The loading also involved truck [ ] which had previously been observed in the Zwaetzen Kaserne. 5

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10. Between 20 and 26 January, the Artillerie Kaserne west of Friedensstrasse (8542) in Zeitz was occupied as previously by approximately 750 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, most of them with tank insignia. On 20 January, T-34/85 tanks [ ] left the installation for the Zeitzer Forest. On 25 January, 4 to 6 T-34/85 tanks [ ] entered the Artillerie Kaserne from the direction of Zeitzer Forest. 6

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11. At 1600 on 26 January, 2 tanks and 2 SP guns including SU-100 gun [ ] were seen on Bergisdorfer Strasse. 7

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12. Between 20 and 26 January, the Infanterie Kaserne east of Friedensstrasse (8541) in Zeitz was occupied by approximately 850 soldiers including about 500 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and the others wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

13. Between 17 January and 3 February, the Flak Kaserne (8501) in Weimar was occupied by an estimated 600 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. All windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. On 22 and 31 January, an undetermined number of soldiers practiced with 2 x 85-mm AA guns in front of the gun sheds. 8

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14. On 19 January, 15 driving school trucks with 80 soldiers wearing camouflage clothing were ready to depart from the east section of the Tannenberg Kaserne (8502). 8

15. On 20, 27 and 31 January, 2 T-34/85 tanks from the west section of the Tannenberg Kaserne engaged in firing and driving practice at the training area near Kastanienallee. 8

16. Between 17 January and 3 February, the central section of the Luetzendorf Kaserne (8503) was occupied as previously by 500 to 600 soldiers wearing red-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 21 January, approximately 30 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets piled up new poles. On 24 January, a radio truck with a generator in operation and an extended antenna was seen in the barracks yard. 9

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17. Between 27 January and 3 February, the Luetzendorf Kaserne in Weimar was occupied to capacity by an estimated 1,200 soldiers. Approximately 200 of the soldiers wore signal insignia and were quartered in building No 12; 300 soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and were quartered in buildings Nos 9 through 11; and approximately 700 soldiers wore black-bordered red epaulets and were quartered in buildings Nos 7 and 8. The soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets appeared to belong to a light AAA unit. During the period under review there was little vehicular traffic and training. No units marched out. 9
18. During the period under review, the Nachrichten Kaserne (8504) in Weimar was occupied as previously by a signal unit of 500 to 600 soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Little vehicular traffic and training were observed. 10
19. During the period under review, the Panzer Kaserne (8507) in Weimar was occupied about 15 percent by a major rear detail of approximately 100 soldiers. The barracks gates were closed. 10
20. The Flak Kaserne in Weimar was occupied by an estimated 600 soldiers including approximately 300 soldiers of a tank unit who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, 250 soldiers of a heavy AAA unit wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and about 50 soldiers wearing motor transport insignia. The approximately 12 T-34/85 tanks and 8 x 85-mm AA guns previously observed were probably still stationed in the installation. Little training and vehicular traffic were observed. 8
21. Between 27 January and 3 February, the Tannenberg Kaserne in Weimar was occupied to capacity by infantry, signal, mortar and motor transport units. Little training and vehicular traffic were observed. 8
22. During the period under review, the Buchenwald concentration camp (8508) was occupied by an engineer unit of an estimated 200 to 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets. 10
23. From 9 to 15 and 20 to 23 January, the Pionier Kaserne (8522) and the Infanterie Kaserne (8521) in Weissenfels were still occupied to capacity. Very little training and vehicular traffic were observed. On 29 January, 2 trucks with timber entered the Infanterie Kaserne. Between 29 January and 1 February, several trucks with timber reportedly also entered the Pionier Kaserne. 11
24. Between 18 and 24 January, the Infanterie Kaserne in Weissenfels was occupied as previously by an estimated 1,300 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. On 18 January, approximately 100 soldiers received training on 4 x 57-mm AT guns and 30 soldiers received instruction on 2 SU-76 guns. At about 1500 on 21 January, approximately 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and equipped with 8 x 82-mm mortars entered the installation. On 24 January, some 300 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets engaged in an advanced combat practice, presumably an assault, in the training area north of Selau. Seven 82-mm mortars and 12 heavy machine guns were seen. 11

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25. On 27 January, approximately 50 percent of the windows of the installation were lit at dusk. On 31 January, the following columns entered the installation, presumably from the direction of Halle-berseburg:

1130. Sixteen trucks towing 12 x 57-mm AT guns, and approximately 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. Twenty percent of the soldiers carried full field equipment and new submachine guns with red magazine. Motor vehicle

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seen.

1215. Fourteen trucks with 11 x 82-mm mortars, 1 field kitchen, and 200 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets and equipped with new submachine guns. Motor vehicle

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were seen. The column was followed by 2 SU-76 guns.

1230. Eighteen trucks towing 12 x 85-mm AT guns, 1 field kitchen, and 300 soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, including about 30 percent with artillery insignia. Equipment and armament were similar to the other columns. Motor vehicle

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were seen. The column was followed by 2 trucks towing 2 x 82-mm mortars. 11

26. Between 18 and 24 January, the Pionier Kaserne in Weissenfels was occupied by an estimated 1,100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 21 January, T-34/85 tanks Nos 708, 717, 732 and 747 were seen in front of the installation. 11

27. Between 28 and 29 January, a major exercise was held in the Bad Koesen-Leistau-Priessnitz-Alt Flemmingen area. Soviet units and KVP units participated. 11

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28. At 0730 on 2 February, a troop train left the Erfurt railroad station toward Gotha. It consisted of 18 boxcars each occupied by approximately 35 soldiers including 80 percent wearing black-bordered red epaulets and the others red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; 4 boxcars marked by red flags and presumably loaded with ammunition; and a large number of flatcars with sideracks carrying 20 x 85-mm AT guns, 6 x 57-mm AT guns, 4 x 82-mm or 120-mm mortars and 38 trucks. 12

Comment. It is still undetermined whether the 112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is stationed in the Koenig Georg Kaserne or the Hindenburg Kaserne. In this connection, the location of the 87th Gun Arty Regt cannot be determined.

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2. Comment. This installation in Suhl is believed to be occupied by the 13 Mtrcl Bn of the 39th Gds Ltz Rifle Div. 25X1
3. Comment. [redacted] the JS tanks belonged to the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div which is believed to be stationed in the Zwaetzen Kaserne. The unloading on 16 January involved artillery elements of the 66th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div, which probably returned from firing practices. The 122-mm howitzers presumably belonged to the 172d Gds How Arty Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div which is believed to be stationed in the Forst Kaserne. Available information tends to indicate that, in addition to the 68th Gds Mecz Regt, elements of the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt and the 172d Gds How Arty Regt are, possibly temporarily, stationed in the barracks installation in Loebstedt. 25X1  
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4. Comment. The armored personnel carriers were probably of a new type. 25X1
5. Comment. The SU-100 guns belong to the 68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. At least elements of the 2504th Gds AAA Regt are stationed in the barracks installation in Zwaetzen. 25X1
6. Comment. Tanks [redacted] belong to the 36th Tank Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. Tank [redacted] may belong to the 36th Tank Regt or the U/i Mtrcl Bn of the 20th Gds Mecz Div which is also believed to be stationed in the Artillerie Kaserne. 25X1
7. Comment. [redacted] SU-100 gun [redacted] may belong to the 67th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div. If so, this would again indicate that tank battalions of mechanized regiments were recently allotted several SP guns. On the other hand, the above-mentioned SP gun may also belong to the 36th Tank Regt. 25X1
8. Comment. Available information indicates that the Flak Kaserne in Weimar is occupied by elements of the 13th AAA Div of the Eighth Gds Army and, possibly, by elements of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div, other components of which are believed to be quartered in the Tannenberg Kaserne. Other units believed to be stationed in the Tannenberg Kaserne are the 581st Gds Mortar Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div and the 257th Motor Trans Bn of the Eighth Gds Army. 25X1
9. Comment. The Luetzendorf Kaserne is probably occupied by elements of the 13th AAA Div and, possibly, elements of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt. The signal unit allegedly stationed in this installation cannot be identified. 25X1

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10. Comment. The Nachrichten Kaserne is believed to be occupied by the 91st Sig Regt, the Panzer Kaserne by the 446th Sig Bn and the Buchenwald concentration camp by the 19th Indep Gds Engr Bn of the Eighth Gds Army. 25X1
11. Comment. Prior to 24 January, no changes were observed at the Weissenfels post. After that date, elements were absent from the post until 31 January. Elements of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, including units of the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt, may have participated in the exercise which was observed in the Bad Koesen area. It is noted that the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt apparently left with 85-mm AT guns. Since the guns were definitely identified, it is also possible that the 64th AT Bn of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, which was previously believed to be stationed in Gotha, was transferred to Weissenfels. 25X1
12. Comment. Artillery elements of a rifle or mechanized division of the Eighth Gds Army probably transferred to the Ohrdruf or Kindel area for firing practices. 25X1

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